

Therapeutics Today

A publication by the National Medicines Information Centre (NMIC)

February 2026



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Welcome to the February edition of Therapeutics Today. This month's issue will highlight information, including guidance and advice, recently published by various organisations. Readers are also reminded of previously published NMIC bulletins, which are available on our website www.nmic.ie.

We welcome any feedback or comments which can be provided using the feedback button below or by emailing the NMIC directly at nmic@stjames.ie.

Guidance and Advice

UK Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS)

The SPS are a team of pharmacy professionals and support staff commissioned by NHS England to provide advice and guidance on Medicines Optimisation. Recent publications that may be of interest include:



[Assessing risks when reconstituting injectable medicines](#) - last updated 12th February 2026

[Using gabapentin or pregabalin during breastfeeding](#) - last updated 11th February 2026

[Considering fluoride and accidental ingestion of toothpaste](#) - published 28th January 2026

[Advising on specific medicines following bariatric surgery](#) - last updated 15th January 2026

[Switching between gabapentin and pregabalin for neuropathic pain](#) - last updated 14th January 2026

[Learn more](#)

Medication Safety

Medication Safety Minute

Readers are reminded of the "Medication Safety Minute", a collaborative project undertaken by two hospital consultants and the Medication Safety Facilitator (a pharmacist) in St James's Hospital.

These bite-sized messages, which may also include short videos, are published every week and are available via X [@medsafetymin](#). Recent Medication Safety Minutes are linked directly below and include:



• [Withdrawal syndrome with oral baclofen](#)

• [Surgical antibiotic prophylaxis - timing of dosing](#)

• [Pharmacokinetic drug interactions - key perpetrators](#)

• [Apixaban for non-valvular A. Fib - dose adjustment and switching](#)

[Learn more](#)

Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA)

The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) website contains the latest regulatory updates on medicines and information on [medicine shortages](#), as well as access to all currently approved product information (e.g. [Summary of Product Characteristics](#) [SmPCs]).



Direct Healthcare Professional Communication (DHPC)

The HPRA has recently published an important safety information update from Viatrix Healthcare Limited regarding Arixtra (fondaparinux sodium) - serious quality defect related to the needle in pre-filled syringe.

[Read more](#)

Other News

Irish Headache Society - Migraine Ireland

Migraine Ireland has announced the official launch of the Irish Headache Society at Migraine Ireland (IHS-MI), a new professional and academic society dedicated to advancing the understanding and treatment of headache disorders in Ireland. The IHS-MI will bring together leading neurologists, GPs, pharmacists, nurses, and other healthcare professionals including psychologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians and speech & language therapists to address the significant impact of migraine and other headache disorders on the Irish population.



[Learn more](#)

Neonatal & Paediatric Pharmacy Group (NPPG)

The UK NPPG has recently published the following updated position statements:

[Labelling of Dispensed Oral Medicines for Children](#) (version 2 - updated January 2026)

[Enteral Calcium, Phosphate, Potassium and Zinc Supplementation in Neonates and Children](#) (version 4 - updated February 2026)



[Learn more](#)

Signposting

Recently published articles that may be of interest can be found below:

• Walsh SJ, O'Leary A, Lynch M. [Planetary health and environmentally sustainable healthcare: perceptions of primary care practitioners in Ireland – a qualitative study](#). *BMJ Open Quality*, 2025;14:e003827.

• Purcell, A., Ní Áinle, F., Hunt, B.J. et al. [Venous thromboembolism prophylaxis in adults hospitalised for psychiatric illness: an evidence-based clinical practice guideline developed using GRADE](#). *Int J Clin Pharm* (2026).

• Nauck MA, Tuttle KR, Tschöp MH, Blüher M. [Glucagon-like receptor agonists and next-generation incretin-based medications: metabolic, cardiovascular, and renal benefits](#). *The Lancet* (2026).

• O'Connor R. Navigating the benefits and harms of GLP-1 and GLP-1/GIP agonists in obesity. *Drug Ther Bulletin*, 2026 Jan 28;64(2):19-23. doi: 10.1136/dtb.2025.000039. (Freely accessible to ICGP members using the ICGP [journal access portal](#)).

• Irish College of GPs (ICGP). Cancer Survivorship General Practice Update (GPU). Dublin: Irish College of GPs;2026. Available from www.irishcollegeofgps.ie. (Accessible to ICGP members only).

What do you think of *Therapeutics Today*?

Please share any suggestions/comments that you might have!

[Feedback](#)

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